

**Senate Study Bill 1144 - Introduced**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
JUDICIARY RESOLUTION BY  
CHAIRPERSON ZAUN)

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution  
2 of the State of Iowa eliminating involuntary servitude as a  
3 punishment for crime.  
4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 Section 23 of Article I of the Constitution of the State of  
4 Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

5 Sec. 23. **Slavery — involuntary servitude.** There shall  
6 be no slavery in this state, nor shall there be involuntary  
7 servitude. Upon conviction of a crime, an Iowa court or  
8 an Iowa probation or parole agency may order the convicted  
9 person to engage in community service or other alternative to  
10 incarceration as part of sentencing for the crime in accordance  
11 with programs that have been in place historically or that  
12 may be developed in the future to provide accountability,  
13 reformation, protection of society, or rehabilitation.

14 Sec. 2. REFERRAL AND PUBLICATION. The foregoing proposed  
15 amendment to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is referred  
16 to the general assembly to be chosen at the next general  
17 election for members of the general assembly, and shall be  
18 published as provided by law for three months previous to the  
19 date of that election.

20 EXPLANATION

21 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
22 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

23 This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the  
24 Constitution of the State of Iowa eliminating involuntary  
25 servitude as a legal punishment for crime.

26 The resolution provides that an Iowa court or an Iowa  
27 probation or parole agency may order community service or other  
28 alternative to incarceration.

29 The resolution, if adopted, would be published and then  
30 referred to the next general assembly for adoption, before  
31 being submitted to the electorate for ratification.